



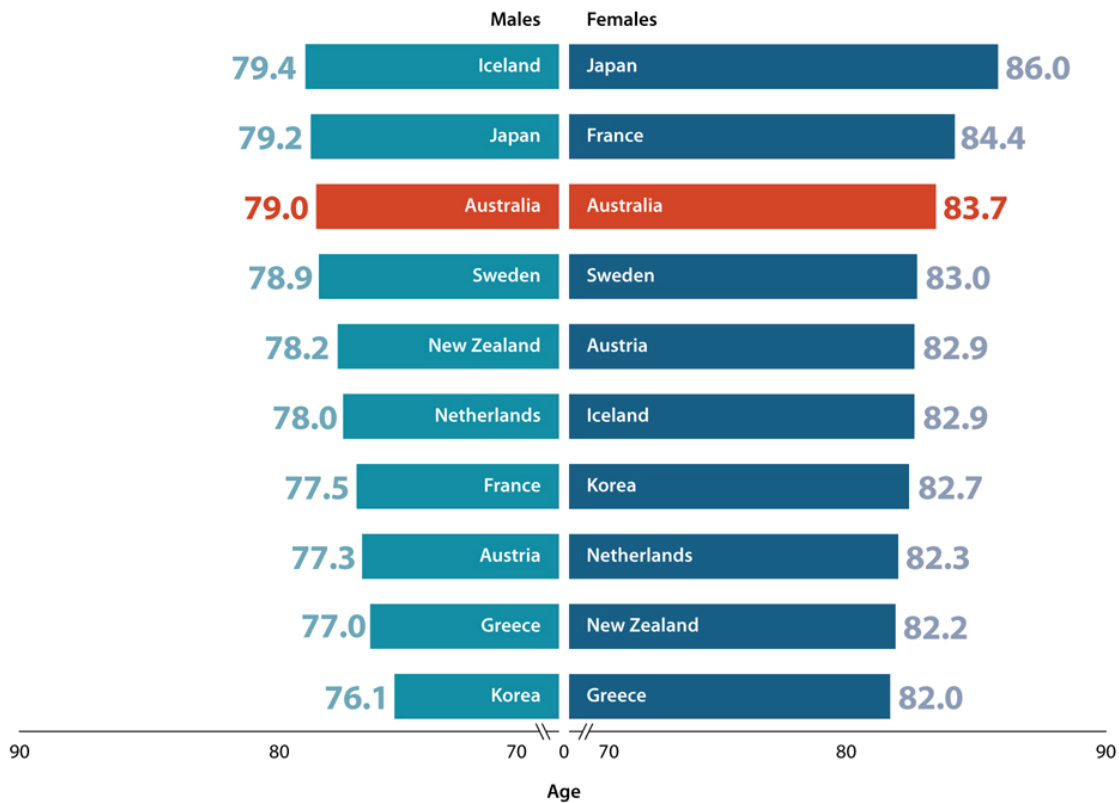
Australia's life expectancy

Extracted from *Australia's health 2010*

Pages 26–28 and 234–235

Our life expectancy as a nation is among the highest in the world and has been so for quite some time. We ranked third in the world in 2007 for our life expectancy at birth: almost 84 years for females and 79 for males, on average. Australia's life expectancy at birth has risen dramatically over the past century, having been only 55 years for males in the early 1900s and 59 for females.

Life expectancy—how we compare



Life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Available data indicate that the life expectancy at birth for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is much lower than for non-Indigenous Australians. Recently, the ABS reviewed their method of compiling the Indigenous life tables.

For the period 2005–2007, the life expectancy at birth was estimated to be 67 years for Indigenous males and 73 years for Indigenous females. In contrast, life expectancy at birth for non-Indigenous Australians for the same period was 79 years for males and 83 years for females. This is a difference of 12 years for males and 10 years for females.